

**GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
OF THE UNITED STATES**

Public Services Commission

IN RE:)	
)	
The Water and Power Authority’s Petition)	Docket No. 613
for an Annual Revenue Increase In)	Order No. <u>22</u> /2014
Base Rates for the Water Department)	
_____)	

ORDER

WHEREAS, on November 16, 2012, the Virgin Islands Public Services Commission (hereinafter “the Commission” or “PSC”) received the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority’s (hereinafter “the Authority” or “WAPA”) Petition for an annual revenue increase in the base rates for the Water Department; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2013, the Commission adopted Order 25/2013 and created Docket 613 to review the Authority’s petition for an annual revenue increase in the Water Department base rates; and

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2013, the Commission met in public session and appointed Attorney Kye Walker as the Hearing Examiner in Dockets 612 and 613; and

WHEREAS, on October 25, 2013, the Commission received Hearing Examiner’s report and recommendations for Docket 613; and

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2013, the Commission received a revised Hearing Examiner’s report and recommendations for Docket 613; and

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2013, the Commission met in a Special Meeting at both its offices on St. Thomas and St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands; and

WHEREAS, the Commission identified several outstanding issues that the parties and the Hearing Examiner have not clarified in the proceeding, and found it was unable to make a decision on this matter without the clarification of the following outstanding issues by the Hearing Examiner and the Parties; and

WHEREAS, the Hearing Examiner conducted further briefings and evidentiary proceedings, with the Parties; and

WHEREAS, the Hearing Examiner submitted a Consolidated Report on December 13, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Public Services Commission again met on December 19, 2013, and having reviewed the record, the reports and recommendations, and having heard from the Hearing Examiner, the Authority and the Staff; and

WHEREAS, upon review and deliberation the Commission voted to accept the Hearing Examiner's Consolidated Report and Recommendations; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Commission finds and **ORDERS** that:

1. The Hearing Examiner's Reports and Recommendations as modified by her Consolidated Report are **ADOPTED**.
2. The rates be set to achieve a permanent increase in rates of \$1,541,716 per year, which is \$41,716 per year above the interim rate increase approved in July 2012.
3. The Authority shall file its proposed tariffs implementing the approved rates with the Commission.

So Ordered.

For the Commission



M. Thomas Jackson, Chairman

Date: January 29, 2014